

In determining whether cell phone use should be permitted on public airlines, my first concern is safety. I recall reading news articles after the Madrid train bombing alleging that the bombs were detonated by cell phones. I don't know if that was found to be true but if it is even a remote possibility, then we should err on the side of caution. As a practical matter, I have no objection to nonverbal wireless transmissions such as text or instant messaging or wireless access for laptops. However, if verbal communication via cell phone is ultimately permitted, the airlines should establish separate sections/seating arrangements for cell phone talkers.